

An Nguyen

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SUMMARY

Cognitive scientist with a focus on perception and cognitive processes. 5 years of experience in experimental designs and data analysis. Strong background in linguistics. Familiar with NLP tasks and ML techniques.

EDUCATION

Johns Hopkins University

Ph.D. in Cognitive Science 2019 – present

M.A. in Cognitive Science 2018 – 2019

Truman State University

B.S. in Psychology and Cognitive Science, Minor in Statistical Methods. *Valedictorian*. 2013 - 2017

RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

Graduate Student Researcher, LANGUAGE ACQUISITION LAB, JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY 2018 – present

- Investigated information processing and learning using ethnography & behavioral experiments
- Build typology database and model for syntactic classification using Bayesian inferences
- Mentored 3 undergraduate research assistants.

Lab Manager, LANGUAGE ACQUISITION AND BRAIN LAB, UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE 2017 – 2018

- Lead JavaScript and Python developer for multiple online tasks to collect behavioral data.
- Lead data analyst: Wrote 80% of the lab's analysis protocol. Managed the lab's database.
- Conducted research on human perception and learning. Supervised research assistants.

Statistical Consultant, CENTER FOR APPLIED STATISTICS & EVALUATION 2015 – 2017

- Worked with different clients; provided assistance with data collection and data analysis for 2 faculty grants, 1 organization, and several student projects.
- Created surveys and interview questions to collect data. Led focus groups and interviews.
- Conducted statistical analysis. Wrote up and presented final reports.

Research Assistant, EEG LAB, TRUMAN STATE UNIVERSITY 2016 – 2017

- Conducted research on human perceptual processes (audio-visual integration) using EEG.

APA Summer Undergraduate Research Scholar, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY Summer 2016

- Conducted research on the aging brain using meta-analysis, neuroimaging and brain stimulation.

Academic Trainer, STEP SCHOLARS PROGRAM 2016 – 2017

- Tutored STEM subjects, including Computer Science, Mathematics, and Statistics.

SKILLS

Programming: Python, R, JavaScript, Stan

Languages: Vietnamese, English

Linguistics: Syntax, Semantics, Pragmatics, Morphology, corpus analysis, computational linguistic models

Research: Qualitative + quantitative research methods, experimental design, statistical analysis

AWARDS

- Science of Learning Fellowship *for multidisciplinary approaches in studying cognition* 2020 – 2021
- Dorothy Pearson Foundation Scholarship *for outstanding students in Statistics* 2016
- Harold L. Hess and Ozella M. Hess Foundation Scholarship *for academic excellence* 2015
- President's Honorary Scholarship *for outstanding incoming students* 2013
- President's List x 8 semesters 2013 - 2017

RELEVANT COURSEWORK

NLP: Computational Linguistics; Computational Psycholinguistics; Human & Computer Cognition; Intro to Human Language Technology; Syntax; Semantics; Machine Translation;
CompSci: Object-oriented programming; Foundations of Neural Networks; Machine Learning – Deep Learning
Statistics: Statistical Computing; ANOVA; Linear Regression; Biostatistics; Advanced R
Psychology: Experimental Psychology; Applied Social Psychology; Experimental Design, Psychological Research

PUBLICATIONS

PAPERS

1. **Nguyen, A.**, & Legendre, G. (2020). Covert movement in English probing wh-questions. In *Proceedings of Linguistic Society of America 2020 Annual Meeting*. 5(1). 180-186.
2. Bernard, JA, **Nguyen, A.**, Hausman, HK, et al. (2020). Shaky scaffolding: Age differences in cerebellar activation revealed through activation likelihood estimation meta-analysis. *Human Brain Mapping*. 1– 27.

TALKS

1. **Nguyen, A.**, & Legendre, G. (2020). Testing syntactic simplicity: wh-in-situ vs. fronted wh-questions in L1 acquisition. Talk at *Many Paths to Language, Max Planck Institute Conference*, Nijmegen, The Netherlands. Acceptance rate: **23.5%**
2. **Nguyen, A.**, Howe, W., & Legendre, G. (2020). Prosody as the main cue to differentiate wh-in-situ questions in acquisition. Talk at the *18th Old World Conference on Phonology*, Eivissa, Spain.
3. **Nguyen, A.**, & Legendre, G. (2020). The acquisition of English wh-in-situ. Talk at the *Linguistic Society of America 2021 Annual Meeting*, San Francisco, CA. Acceptance rate: **35.2%**.
4. **Nguyen, A.** (2020). The acquisition of English wh-in-situ. *Brown Bag talk at the Cognitive Science Department, Johns Hopkins University*, Baltimore, MD.
5. **Nguyen, A.**, & Kozloff, V. (2017). Statistical learning and language. Talk at the *Experimental Group Meeting at the Department of Linguistics and Cognitive Science*, University of Delaware, Newark, DE.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

1. **Nguyen, A.**, Howe, W., & Legendre, G. (2020). English-speaking children's acquisition of wh-in-situ. Poster at *Generative Approaches to Language Acquisition North America 6*. Reykjavík, Iceland. Acceptance rate: **45%**
2. Weng, Y.L, **Nguyen, A.**, Ryskin, R., & Qi, Z. (2020). Prediction and sentence ambiguity resolution: A simultaneous eye-tracking and EEG study. Poster at *33rd Annual CUNY Human Sentence Processing Conference*, Amherst, MA.
3. Schneider, J., Arnon, I., **Nguyen, A.**, Medez, K., & Qi, Z. (2019). Does prior language experience hinder statistical learning? Poster presented at *Boston University Conference on Language Development*, Boston, MA.
4. Schneider, J., Weng, Y., Kozloff, V., **Nguyen, A.**, & Qi, Z. (2019). Neural sensitivity to speech distribution information underlies statistical learning. Poster presented at *Neurobiology of Language*, Helsinki, Finland.
5. Qi, Z., **Nguyen, A.**, Ozernov-Palchik, O., Beach, S., May, S., Arciuli, J., & Gabrieli, J.D.E. (2018). Statistical learning in reading development and reading impairment. Poster presented at *Boston University Conference on Language Development*, Boston, MA.
6. **Nguyen, A.**, Sanchez Araujo, Y., Georgan, W., Arciuli, J., & Qi, Z. (2018). Re-examine the reliability of statistical learning tasks across domains and modalities. Poster presented at *Psychonomic Society Annual Meeting*, New Orleans, LA.
7. Kozloff, V., **Nguyen, A.**, Arciuli, J., & Qi, Z. (2018). Statistical learning in a noisy environment is associated with vocabulary. Poster presented at *Boston University Conference on Language Development*, Boston, MA.
8. Mendez, K., **Nguyen, A.**, Kozloff, V., & Qi, Z. (2018). The role of native language in statistical learning success. Poster presented at *University of Delaware's ninth annual Undergraduate Research and Service Scholar Celebratory Symposium*, Newark, DE.

GUEST LECTURES

1. Fall 2020: Guest lecture on *Computational Linguistics*.
2. Fall 2019: Guest lecture on *Pragmatics*.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

1. Schneider, J., Arnon, I., **Nguyen, A.**, Mendez, K., & Qi, Z. *The relationship between statistical learning and prior language experience*.
2. **Nguyen, A.**, & Legendre, G. *The acquisition of wh-questions: Beyond structural economy and input frequency*.
3. **Nguyen, A.**, & Wilson, C. *Learning the surface structure of wh-questions in English and French with a non-parametric Bayesian model*.